Pilot-flight Ratio

*373. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian civil aviation industry is reeling under shortage of commercial pilots;

(b) the total number of qualified commercial pilots in India, at present;

(c) the number of flights operated by the Indian carriers and pilots working with them;

(d) whether the pilot-flight ratio in India is as per the international approved ceiling; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) With a view to enhance their passenger capacity, National carriers and scheduled operators are inducting more aircraft. This has increased the requirement of pilots. In addition new airlines entering the domestic aviation sector would also be requiring more pilots.

(b) The total number of active professional pilots is 3638 including 358 helicopter pilots.

(c) The number of flights operated by Indian carriers and pilots working with them is as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of carriers	No. of flights	No. of pilots
1.	Jet Airways	270	440
2.	Air Deccan	72	87
3.	Air India Ltd.	185	484
4.	Indian Airlines Ltd. (including Alliance Air)	322	620
5.	Air Sahara	120	247

(d) and (e) Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has prescribed in their "Civil Aviation Requirements" (CAR) 3 sets of pilot per aircraft which is also as per the international standards.